

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

23 JULY 1984

Iran

Following FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher's departure on 22 July after 3 days of talks with Iranian leaders, his counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati, in remarks broadcast by Tehran radio, disclosed that the discussions revolved around commercial, industrial, cultural, and political relations between the two sides. In addition, Velayati warned Genscher about the stance taken by some Western countries in support of "terrorism" and the leaders of "terrorist" groups against Iran, which contradicts the human rights policies they claim to encourage. IRNA added that the two foreign ministers also discussed the war with Iraq, which Genscher confirmed was started by Iraq, and that Velayati accepted an invitation to visit the FRG. Genscher described his talks as a "success," and an FRG spokesman said that the discussion of human rights was "serious and frank," according to DPA. Genscher was also received by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, President 'Ali Khamene'i, and Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Tehran radio noted.

At a news conference reported by IRNA, Hashemi-Rafsanjani reiterated that the Saudi invitation to visit is still under consideration and that such visits could be "useful." He added that Saudi Arabia fears the Iranian revolution and that talks could possibly improve the prevailing atmosphere. Concerning the war with Iraq, Hashemi-Rafsanjani pointed out that if Saudi financial support for Iraq were withdrawn, it could effectively end the war. In the present circumstances, the only possible agreement that might be reached with the ruling Iraqi regime is a cease-fire, which is not a real peace and which would be against the best interests of the region, he added.

On the topic of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's possible successor, Hashemi-Rafsanjani offered his personal opinion that Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri's popular acceptance is such that he should become Iran's leader after Khomeyni.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian President Khamene'i said that the ICO committee to end the war actually supports Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and that Iran will not accept renewed peace efforts by the committee, IRNA reported. He pointed out that Iran's attitude is a result of the committee's "passive position" concerning Iraq's initiation of the war, chemical attacks, and shelling civilian areas. On the other hand, an Iraqi official spokesman emphasized to INA that Iraq is ready to cooperate with the committee and to facilitate its work for peace. The spokesman said Iran's accusations against the committee are evidence of Iran's intransigence and rejection of any serious effort to solve the conflict in a just and honorable manner.

In another development, the Iranian charge d'affaires to Kuwait announced at a news conference reported by KUNA that Iran is

preparing a "new attack" against Iraq "soon," the object of which is to end the war. The envoy also denied that an Iranian official recently visited Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

Israel

West Bank Attacks — Both the PFLP and the Al-'Asifah group (anti-'Arafat Fatah faction) claimed responsibility for an attack on 21 July against an Israeli patrol in Nabulus, Radio Monte Carlo announced in two separate reports. Both groups asserted that all of the patrol's elements were either killed or wounded. The IDF spokesman, cited by Jerusalem radio, had announced that at least 70 Arabs were detained and a 6-hour curfew was imposed on the Casbah area of Nabulus following the grenade attack that left five people injured, including one soldier.

In a related development, Israeli military sources denied an AFP report that the Terror Against Terror organization left a bomb in Nabulus' largest mosque, Jerusalem radio noted. The sources said that a small dummy explosive charge was found in Nabulus on 20 July and that "local residents" appear to have planted it.

Meanwhile, a KAKH movement member was sentenced to 39 months in jail and 33 months suspended sentence for an attack on an Arab bus in Ramallah 4 months earlier, Jerusalem television reported.

Anti-USSR Pact Denied — Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said to the Tel Aviv paper *MA'ARIV* that a *NEW YORK TIMES* report on an anti-USSR agreement signed with the United States is "totally inaccurate." Authoritative sources in Jerusalem noted that Israel has rejected U.S. requests to mention the Soviet Union in any strategic accords, the paper added. Shamir emphasized that Syria represents the main threat to peace in the area.

Lebanon

Diplomatic Developments — Lebanon has agreed to postpone evacuating its guards and liaison personnel from the Israeli office at Ad-Dubayyah until after the Israeli elections, Jerusalem radio announced on 23 July. However, the Lebanese authorities have decided to withdraw the permits given to the Israeli staff allowing them freedom of movement within Beirut, according to a "ministerial" source cited by Voice of Lebanon radio. Earlier, Prime Minister Rashid Karami told the radio that the presence of the office has no justification and therefore "we closed it." Damascus radio praised Lebanon's decision to close the office, stressing "the Arab dimension of this decision."

As for the recent reports of secret Israeli-Syrian contacts over Lebanon, Lebanese sources cited by IDF radio said the negotiations were suspended after the two sides were unable to bridge a wide gap over military details. The talks took place in Geneva between Syrian Vice President Rif'at al-Asad and senior Israeli officials, the sources claimed. However, Israeli sources categori-

cally denied that Israel has held any contacts with the Syrians over arrangements for withdrawing troops from Lebanon, IDF radio noted.

In Damascus, Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam discussed efforts to continue progress toward peace in Lebanon during talks with Lebanese ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt, Damascus radio reported on 22 July. Earlier, Kuwait's *AL-QABAS* disclosed that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad recently visited Syrian forces in Lebanon and warned them to be ready for an Israeli operation at any time.

Soviet Embassy Attack — The previously unknown "Sharp Sword Organization" claimed responsibility for a rocket attack that damaged the Soviet Embassy on 20 July, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. An anonymous spokesman for the organization said the attack is a warning to the Soviet Union not to continue "direct interference" in Lebanon's internal affairs. TASS linked the attackers with the Islamic Jihad organization, "which unites the most reactionary groups engaging in sabotage and terrorism." Meanwhile, in an interview with Jordan's *AR-RAY*, Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran disclosed that Lebanon will ask the Soviet Union for assistance "similar to that received by Syria" in order to reduce Israeli pressure on Lebanon. A Soviet delegation including a high-ranking officer will visit Lebanon soon, according to a Lebanese press report cited by MENA.

Security — Fresh clashes erupted between the Lebanese Army and gunmen in hilly areas south of the capital, according to reports over the weekend by Voice of Lebanon radio and the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. The exchanges of fire centered around Suq al-Gharb and 'Aytat as well as Ash-Shuwayfat and Kafr Shima. Nevertheless, the main militia organizations in Beirut — the Lebanese Forces, the Amal Movement, and the Progressive Socialist Party — gathered their heavy weapons at depots in accordance with the security plan, Beirut radio reported.

Hijacking — A man who hijacked a Lebanese airliner on 21 July was remanded into custody after surrendering to the security authorities at Beirut Airport, Beirut radio reported. The hijacker said his action was intended to draw attention to "mistreatment" he received in Abu Dhabi and to protest Israel's occupation of the south.

Western Sahara

Mauritanian President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala denied Moroccan charges that recent Polisario attacks were mounted from Mauritanian territory, Nouakchott radio reported citing a message from Haydala to Moroccan King Hassan. Haydala reiterated Mauritania's desire to remain out of the conflict and stressed that Mauritanian territory has not been used and will not be used for an attack on Moroccan forces. A related Mauritanian press agency commentary cited by the radio held Morocco responsible for any deterioration in relations between the two countries and accused Morocco of escalating the situation by threatening to use military force against Mauritania.

Earlier, in a message to Haydala reported by Rabat radio, King Hassan II had warned that following two attacks in the Western Sahara that began from Mauritanian territory, the Moroccan forces may be obliged to pursue the aggressors to their bases. Mauritania bears full responsibility for events that may lead to "unfavorable consequences," the king added.

However, a Polisario official denied the Moroccan charges that attacks were mounted from Mauritania, AFP reported. The Polisario had announced in a statement reported by Algiers radio that a 19 July attack near El-Aargub resulted in the deaths of 43 Moroccan soldiers and the destruction of large quantities of military equipment.

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Gandhi Denies Toppling State Governments*BK201111 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 20 Jul 84*

[Text] The prime minister has asserted that the center never tried to topple any state government. On the other hand, it has treated all the states with the utmost equality in the distribution of funds and extending help. Mrs Gandhi said if any of the opposition-ruled states fell because of its weakness, it is not our fault. She was addressing a public meeting in Trivandrum last night. The prime minister said there have been occasions for the center to intervene when divisive and antinational forces raised their heads in some parts of the country. It was such a situation which warranted the center's action in Punjab. Similar antinational activity was taking place in Jammu and Kashmir and strategic border areas of the country, she added.

Referring to the Punjab problem, Mrs Gandhi said the center has tried to meet all the legitimate demands of the Akali Dal. She questioned its right to represent the entire Sikh community. The prime minister criticised the tendency of regionalism. She said every citizen has the right to stay anywhere in the country. She called upon the people to fight unitedly fissiparous and separatist elements. The prime minister said there is circumstantial evidence to show that the foreign forces are at work to disrupt the country's unity and integrity. Mrs Gandhi accused the opposition of creating differences among the people discarding the cardinal issue of unity.

Speaks at Airport*BK201121 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 20 Jul 84*

[Text] Mrs Gandhi has said that the majority of the people belonging to all sections have supported the Kar Sewa [voluntary community service] in the Golden Temple complex. Mrs Gandhi was talking to newsmen at Trivandrum airport before leaving for New Delhi a short while ago. Mrs Gandhi reiterated that the Army action was not against the Sikh community or the Akali party. It was against the criminals who took shelter in a holy place.

Earlier, inaugurating the southern air command of the Indian Air Force in Trivandrum, the prime minister called upon the people to remain vigilant against divisive tendencies. Mrs Gandhi said the major challenge today is how to keep the unity and integrity of the country. She said the defense forces can discharge their responsibility only when the country is strong and united. Mrs Gandhi said with the increasing militarization of the Indian Ocean area, no part of the country is now free from the war threats. The prime minister said the nation has to be fully equipped to meet the challenges and defend the borders from external threats.

Referring to center-state relations, the prime minister denied the charge that the center is showing discrimination against any state.

The defense minister, Mr Venkataraman, said that southern air command will provide air defense coverage to peninsular India

and the island territories of Andamans, Nicobar and Lakshadweep.

Addressing the Pradesh [state] Youth Congress-I meeting, Mrs Gandhi urged the youth to fight fissiparous tendencies and divisive forces. She praised Kerala state for the communal harmony it maintains despite having a number of communities.

Gandhi Warns Zia on 'Interest' in Muslims*BK211526 Hong Kong AFP in English 1517 GMT 21 Jul 84*

[Text] New Delhi, July 21 (AFP) — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has advised Pakistan President General Ziaul Haq not to champion the cause of Indian Moslems, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported.

Replying to a letter from Gen Zia on the recent riots in Bombay and its suburbs, Mrs. Gandhi warned him not to show such interest in India's Moslems as it could be construed as interference in internal affairs, PTI said.

Mrs Gandhi's reply fell in line with her recent statement that minorities are well treated in India.

A total of 278 persons died in the Hindu-Moslem riots last May, according to Maharashtra state officials.

Reportage Covers 'Monsoon Session' of Parliament**Gandhi Appeals for Unity***BK221650 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 Jul 84*

[Text] Mrs Gandhi has made a fervent appeal to all people to work unitedly as the recent events in Punjab posed a threat to the integrity of the whole nation and not merely to one state. She was addressing a meeting of the Congress-I party in Parliament on the eve of the monsoon session in New Delhi this evening. She said when the unity of the nation is endangered, every section of the people irrespective of their religion, caste, or culture is threatened equally and nobody can escape the calamity that might fall on the country.

Briefing newsmen, the party secretary, Mr J.K. Jain, said Mrs Gandhi referred to the action taken by the government in Punjab and said we are not happy about it but there was no way out. Mrs Gandhi strongly denied the allegation that the action was taken in the interest of the ruling party. Some people have even alleged that the action was taken to divert people's attention from other problems. This was not correct. The only consideration taken into account was the country's larger interests, its unity, and integrity. Mrs Gandhi said that some opposition parties have predicted that the coming session is going to be stormy. She was afraid that it was going to be really stormy because the elections were approaching and the opposition parties would like to attract people's attention by creating a noise in Parliament.

Referring to outside forces which are deliberately trying to create division among the people of the country, Mrs Gandhi said it will

not be possible to name those powers in the present condition but we can go by the circumstantial evidence. One pointer is how the media in the neighboring as well as far off countries projected the happenings in Punjab. Some of these reports were biased and were intended to provoke one section against another so that India's unity is undermined and its progress is slowed down. The prime minister said that there were many tragic incidents in India's long history, and the nation had always emerged stronger and more unified after every such tragedy. We have repeatedly proved to the world that we can manage our affairs and not get disheartened by the difficulties we face.

'Entire Opposition' Walks Out

*BK230912 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
23 Jul 84*

[Text] Both houses of Parliament began the monsoon session today. In the Lok Sabha, the speaker, Mr Bal Ram Jakhar, rejected an opposition adjournment motion on Jammu and Kashmir. He said under the rules of the House, an adjournment motion on the subject is not permissible. Following this, the entire opposition walked out of the House.

As soon as the House assembled this morning, opposition members wanted that the question hour should be suspended so the House may take up the motion on Jammu and Kashmir. The speaker rejected the demand. There was continuous shouting from the opposition benches which forced the speaker to adjourn the House for about 20 minutes. When the House met again, some ruling party members tried to proceed with the normal business. Amidst continuous interruption from the opposition benches, the House disposed of two questions. Immediately after question hour, several opposition members raised points of order and wanted the speaker to give the reasons for not allowing their adjournment motion. The speaker pointed out that under the rules, he has absolute discretion to give his consent to an adjournment motion or to withhold it. If the opposition wants to censure the government there are other ways. But he could not go against the rules. He assured the House that he would allow discussions on all important issues, including Punjab, and Jammu and Kashmir. When the opposition members started leaving the House, the minister for parliamentary affairs, Mr Buta Singh, said the opposition has shown scant regard for democratic conventions by disrupting the question hour.

In a press release later, most of the opposition parties announced their decision to boycott today's sitting of the Lok Sabha.

The entire opposition barring All India Anna Dravida Mennetra Kazhagam walked out of Rajya Sabha during zero hour when the deputy chairman did not agree with their demand to have a discussion on the developments in Jammu and Kashmir today itself. Mr Shyamlal Yadav said there are separate motions for this, and a decision will be taken at an appropriate time. The proceedings were disrupted during question hour and the chairman adjourned the House for about 10 minutes. Soon after the obituary references, an opposition member wanted to make a submission on the situation in Jammu and Kashmir. The ruling party members took objection to this. This led to shouting from both sides. When the House met again, the deputy chairman

ruled that the House should proceed with the questions and rejected the demand of the opposition members that the issue of Jammu and Kashmir should be taken up immediately.

Sikh Temple Guard Chief To Continue Repair Work

*BK201240 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
20 Jul 84*

[Text] The Budha Dal Nihang [Sikh temple guard] chief, Baba Santa Singh, has challenged the authority of the five Sikh head priests to declare him guilty of committing any religious offense. He said Kar Sewa [voluntary community service] of the Akal Takht, the supreme seat of the Sikh religion, will continue and he was not bound by any irrelevant judgment. The baba said there was no question of appearing before the priests tomorrow to hear the punishment.

Baba Santa Singh said that the so-called judgment of the priests did not have a sanction of the Akal Takht as it was issued from the (Darshani Dewri). He said he is the jathedar [Sikh group leader] of the fifth Takht, Damdama Sahib, and he is not bound by any decision of the paid employees of the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh temple management] committee. The baba declared that he has been assigned the traditional task of Kar Sewa by the gurus and would not leave it until it is complete. He said the Akali Dal and the leaders of the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak committee desecrated the Golden Temple and the Akal Takht by allowing Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale and his followers to stay in the Golden Temple complex and indulge in violent activities. According to a news agency, Baba Santa Singh said in Amritsar yesterday that politics and religion are two separate things and should never be mixed. The baba said the Budha Dal was initiated by Guru Govind Singhji, the 10th Khalsa Guru, and he is keeping alive the real Khalsa traditions. He strongly opposed the carrying of arms in the Golden Temple complex.

Temple Repair Work Resumes

*BK211059 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
21 Jul 84*

[Text] In Amritsar, the Kar Sewa in the Golden Temple complex was resumed this morning for the 5th day. Hundreds of devotees are participating in the Kar Sewa. The devotees recovered about 95 cartridges from the debris near Shri Akal Takht Sahib [highest seat of Sikh religion] during the Kar Sewa; 49 Akali demonstrators were arrested near Gurdwara Shahidan for defiance of prohibitory orders.

Meanwhile, the security forces have rounded up eight more suspected terrorists from Ferozepore and Jullundur districts yesterday. Some arms and ammunition were also recovered from them. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that 4 pistols and about 50 rounds of ammunition were dug out from a field in a village near Hoshiarpur yesterday. He said the haul was made on information provided by some terrorists during interrogation.

Baba Santa Singh Excommunicated

BK221402 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Excerpts] The Kar Sewa continued for the 6th day today at the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar with more devotees joining the program.

The five Sikh priests today excommunicated Baba Santa Singh from the Sikh panth [religion] for ignoring their directive. In a statement they said he has violated Sikh traditions. Reacting sharply to his excommunication by the Sikh priests, the Budha Dal Nihang [Sikh temple guard] chief, Baba Santa Singh, said he is neither a member of the Akali Dal nor had he been baptized by the Sikh priests. He said he is independent and heads the Azad Panth Khalsa. Baba Santa Singh pointed out that the priests are employees of the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh temple management] committee and work under its dictates. As they are not independent, any judgment issued by them is meaningless, he said.

New Akali Dal Campaign Aims To Free Golden Temple

BK221738 Hong Kong AFP in English 1729 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Excerpt] New Delhi, July 22 (AFP) — The Sikh party Akali Dal announced in Punjab today that it proposed to launch a new and bigger campaign to free the Golden Temple, the holiest Sikh shrine in the northwestern state, from the Army, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reported.

The proposal, made after a meeting of the party's ad hoc committee in Ludhiana, would be in addition to the action of dispatching suicide squads to free the temple from the Army. Details of the new campaign would be announced in Amritsar soon, PTI said.

Misceants Blamed for Punjab Canal Breach

BK211618 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Excerpts] In Punjab, a special task force has been set up to carry out the plugging of another breach that has occurred in Bhakra main canal.

This breach is about 5 km downstream from the previous breach in Ropar district. The water from the breach is flowing into the (Siswa) Nadi [river].

A technical committee of experts from Punjab, Haryana, and Bhakra-Beas Management Board has also been set up to assess the extent of damage and give technical suggestions for repairs.

Immediately after the detection of the breach this morning, senior officials rushed to the spot. Our special correspondent (Paramjit Singh Trehan), after visiting the site, says the breach which was 10 meters on the right bank when detected has widened to over 200 meters on the right and about 100 meters on the left by noon today. The Bhakra-Beas Management Board has considerably reduced the flow of water in the canal.

The Punjab irrigation and power secretary, Mr Tejendra Khanna, who was supervising the work, told our correspondent that the breach is suspected to be the handiwork of some miscreants. Stoppage of flow of water in the canal will affect large areas in Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and the Union Territory of Chandigarh.

The Punjab governor, Mr K.T. Satarawala, made an aerial survey of the breach site this evening.

Anti-Immigrant Assam Activists Arrested

BK230928 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 23 Jul 84

[Text] Fifteen leaders of the All Assam Students Union and the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad [People's Action Council] were arrested at the Boat Club in New Delhi this morning for defying prohibitory orders. They were demanding an early solution to the foreign nationals issue in Assam. Among those arrested were Mr Prafulla Kumar Mohanta, Mr Biraj Sarma, and former members of Parliament — Mr Dinesh Goswami and Mr Robin Kakati.

AFP Details Arrests

BK230754 Hong Kong AFP in English 0741 GMT 23 Jul 84

[Text] New Delhi, July 23 (AFP) — Fifteen leaders of the anti-immigrant settler movement in Assam were arrested here early today as they tried to stage a 12-hour hunger strike near Parliament House to protest against government delays in satisfying their demands. The leaders included Prafulla Kumar Mohanta, president of the All-Assam Students' Union (AASU), Biraj Sharma, convenor of the All-Assem Gana Sangram Parishad (AAGSP-People's Forum for Struggle, and two former Assamese members of Parliament, Robin Kakati and Dinesh Goswami. Those arrested were charged with violating a government ban on assembly of more than five people, any processions or the carrying of arms around Parliament which was to begin its "monsoon" session today.

Numerous armed police were posted in and around Parliament since early today to enforce the orders. Security arrangements at the gates and inside the house have also been tightened to prevent possible violence by Sikh activities following Army operations in Punjab.

The Assamese movement leaders were detained as they moved into the lawns overlooking Parliament House carrying placards and banners voicing their demands.

The AASU and AAGSP have been spearheading a movement in Assam seeking, among other things, the detection and expulsion of over one million "foreigners" mainly from Bangladesh and Nepal, who had set up home there since 1971. Violence plaguing the state since the start of the movement led to a bloody massacre in February 1983 when over 3,000 people were killed and 100,000 made homeless.

In a pamphlet distributed to the press before their detention, the leaders accused the state government of unleashing "police brutality and terror on innocent people." They also said they would oppose with all forces at their command any attempt by the government to hold a general election in the state on the basis of the 1979 electoral lists.

The AASU and AAGSP had originally demanded that the voters' lists should be prepared on the basis of those existing in 1952 but later agreed to accept the 1971 rolls with suitable changes. The changes would involve the removal of "foreigners" from the 1979 list after discussion between the movement leaders and the election commission.

Assam Extends Disturbed Area Special Courts Act
BK211109 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
21 Jul 84

[Text] The Assam government has extended the term of the Disturbed Area Special Courts Act, 1976, for another 3 months. A notification to this effect was issued in Gauhati yesterday.

Strikes in Assam Districts End 'Peacefully'
BK211609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
21 Jul 84

[Text] The 12-hour bundh [strike] in Kamrup and Barpeta districts of Assam passed off peacefully today. The bundh was in protest against the death of a student. The state chief secretary, Mr A.K. Palit, said in Gauhati that normal life in the two districts was not affected. Road, rail, and air services also operated normally.

Angolan External Affairs Official Meets Gandhi
MB230838 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT
23 Jul 84

[Text] Comrade Venancio de Moura, our country's deputy minister of external affairs, recently informed Indira Gandhi, the chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, that the racist South African regime continued to illegally occupy part of the territory of the People's Republic of Angola. During the meeting held in New Delhi with Indira Gandhi, who is also the prime minister of India, Comrade Venancio de Moura pointed out that the racist Pretoria was continuing its policy aimed at fomenting tension in the region by concentrating its troops on the Angolan border.

According to ANGOP, which circulated this information, our country's deputy minister of external affairs is in India at the head of an OAU delegation on a visit to a number of Asian countries to brief them on the situation in Southern Africa.

On the situation in Southern Africa, Comrade Venancio de Moura told the chairman of the Nonaligned Movement that Angola rejected attempts to link the issue of Namibian independence with the withdrawal of Cuban internationalist troops from Angola. He deplored the fact that the racist Pretoria authorities were doing everything to prevent Namibia from becoming independent, in disrespect of the many UN resolutions and protests from the world community.

Indira Gandhi, the head of the Indian Government, expressed (? full support) for and solidarity with the Angolan people and the struggle for liberation of the Namibian people led by SWAPO.

Zia Returns From Jidda Meeting, Comments on Issues*BK201112 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 20 Jul 84*

[Text] President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq returned to Islamabad this morning after attending the Islamic Community Peace Committee meeting in Jidda. The president and members of his delegation, including the foreign minister, performed an unscheduled pilgrimage in the holy city of Mecca and also visited Medina.

Peace Efforts, Elections*BK210918 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 20 Jul 84*

[Excerpt] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said the Islamic ummah [nation] peace committee has considered some suggestions which can be helpful in bringing about an end to the Iran-Iraq war. Addressing a news conference in Lahore this evening, he said the Jidda meeting of the peace committee was held at a critical juncture when the war between Iran and Iraq had intensified. It endangered the peace and stability of the region with the possibility of intervention by some other countries.

In reply to a question, the president said it would be premature to divulge the nature of the suggestions before the ummah peace committee to bring about an end to the Iran-Iraq war. He said the Gambian president, Dr Dawda Jawara, in his capacity as the new chairman of the committee had been given special mandate to get in touch with Iran and Iraq to ascertain their viewpoints so that further steps could be taken. He expressed the confidence that the peace efforts of the ummah committee would be accelerated. He regretted that there had been too much of polarization between Iran and Iraq. Each of them wanted the ummah peace committee to side with it. He said the efforts of the Muslim world was to see that the two superpowers' rivalry and tension did not result in their getting involved in the prevailing situation.

Replying to a question about the Pak-India relations following the postponement by India of the joint commission's meeting and the visits of foreign ministers and foreign secretaries, he said the step taken by India might have been due to the internal situation and difficulties being faced by that country and the recent reshuffle in the Cabinet. He said Pakistan wants to ensure peace in the region with honor and dignity. He said we would go on a full blast peace initiative with India. [sentence as heard]. He categorically refuted the Indian allegation of Pakistan's involvement in that country's internal affairs.

About the massing of troops by India on the borders in Punjab, he said, though unusual, Pakistan had been informed about it in advance.

Replying to a question, the president said Pakistan had time and again made it clear to the United States, the U.S. Congress, and other bodies that its nuclear program was purely for peaceful purposes.

Asked to comment on the publication in a UNICEF map of Gilgit as part of Kashmir, the president said they had lodged a protest with the UN secretary general about it.

Replying to a question, the president said the future national assembly, which would be called Majlis-i-Shoorah, would have necessary powers in accordance with the requirements of modern age. The system, he said, would be that of shooraiyat [consultation] as provided for in Islam.

He reiterated that the general elections would be completely fair, just, and free. The exact program for elections and the decision regarding the holding of elections on party or nonparty basis will be announced at an appropriate time. He told a questioner that all those who believed in Pakistan and its Islamic ideology would have the right to contest elections. The president again said that there should be healthy politics in the country. It should be free from violence or agitation. In reply to a question, he said all those who were interested in emergence of a positive, strong, and honest leadership in the country were his supporters and he supported them.

Earlier, the president addressed the concluding session of the joint Lahore-Peshawar Pakistan Medical Association (?clinical) conference in Lahore.

Afghanistan, Gambian President's Visit*BK211116 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 21 Jul 84*

[Excerpts] In reply to a question about Afghanistan, the president expressed the hope that there would be some more progress during the next round of indirect talks at Geneva. The continuance of the talks, he said, is in itself proof of progress.

Earlier in a statement, the president said that the Gambian president would visit Pakistan at his invitation in September this year. He said that during his stay in Saudi Arabia, he had useful talks with the Bangladesh president, the PLO chief, and the Turkish deputy foreign minister. He had also met the delegations from Senegal, Kenya, and Malaysia.

AFP: Yaqub Khan on Clashes With Indian Troops*BK221246 Hong Kong AFP in English 1236 GMT 22 Jul 84*

[Text] Islamabad, July 22 (AFP) — Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has confirmed that Indian and Pakistani troops clashed over the Siachen glacier in the disputed Kashmir territory in last April in which casualties were reported on both sides, it was reported here said today. [as received]

A meeting was held last week between the local commanders of the Indian and Pakistani Armies, he told the Majlis-i-Shoorah (advisory council) yesterday, adding that "efforts are continuing to prevent further incidents and to find a mutually satisfactory solution of the problem".

The glacier at an altitude of some 20,000 feet lies between China and Pakistan close to the temporary line of control in Kashmir

State divided between India and Pakistan since the 1948 war. The two countries have since then fought two more wars to get control of the whole Kashmir claimed by both.

However, India which has not recognized the Chinese-Pakistani border demarcation had also claimed the northern Pakistani areas along the Chinese-built Karakoram Highway which links Islamabad with Beijing.

The clashes in April and June last were well away from the Karakoram Highway. Informed sources said the Siachin glacier lies about 125 miles (about 160-km) distant from the China-Pakistan highway, having no link with the Karakoram Highway.

Yaqub Khan Leaves for 4-Day Visit to PRC

BK220906 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, left Islamabad this morning for Beijing on a 4-day visit to China. During his stay in China, he will discuss with Chinese leaders international issues as well as matters of mutual interest. On his way home, he will make a brief stopover in Hong Kong and meet prominent journalists there.

Finance Minister Discusses Current Budget

BK221108 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] The Majlis-i-Shoora [Federal Advisory Council] concluded today its debate on the current federal budget. Winding up the 10-day debate, the federal finance minister, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, said that the current year's budget was a sincere effort aimed at solving the national problems and realizing the national developmental aspirations. It was truly a national budget and an important step toward the establishment of a just Islamic economic order. He said unlike the previous regime's hollow sentimental slogans, the strategy adopted by the present government during the last 7 years had led to the improvement in the industrial and agricultural production and in the living standard of all sections of the population. The country was [word indistinct] well set on the implementation stage of the goal of Nizam-i-Islam [Islamic system]

About the reference by various members to unlink the Pakistani rupee from dollar, he said it had a positive impact on the economy, enhanced exports, and improved balance of payments position.

About acquisition of nuclear energy, he reiterated that Pakistan seeks to develop it solely for peaceful purposes. He described as totally false the allegation recently made by a U.S. senator about Chinese collaboration with Pakistan in designing a nuclear bomb.

The house will now meet tomorrow morning.

Visiting British Minister Comments on Assistance

BK211248 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] The British minister for overseas development, Mr Timothy Raison, has said Pakistan has maintained a good rate of growth because of its sound economic policy. Addressing a news conference in Islamabad this evening at the end of his 5-day visit to Pakistan, he said that he was fully satisfied with the pace of progress of projects being implemented with the British assistance.

In reply to a question, he said the British Government would certainly consider assistance for Pakistan in the field of energy if approached. He said the Pakistanis working in Britain were hard working and playing a constructive role.

Talks Held With Iranian Officials on Border Issues

GF231047 Karachi DAWN in English 19 Jul 84 p 10

[Text] Islamabad, July 18 — A team of Iranian officials is currently holding talks with Pakistani officials on border issues between the two countries, an official source said here on Wednesday.

The meeting is taking place in Quetta since Saturday last, the sources said.

These officials are members of a land committee which was constituted during the visit to Tehran last May of interior minister, Mahmood Haroon, to hold regular meetings and discuss any problems relating to border issues between Iran and Pakistan. — APP

Iranians Stage Protest for Refugee Status

GF231044 Karachi DAWN in English 18 Jul 84 p 8

[Text] Karachi, July 17 — Iranians living in Karachi who call themselves "Iranian militant refugees" will hold demonstrations at the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees for two hours between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Wednesday, demanding the status of refugees and the accompanying benefits of financial help, health and education facilities, says a press release.

Briefs

Kenyan Resident Mission — The Kenyan Government has decided to open a resident mission in Islamabad. An official of the Kenyan Foreign Office has already arrived in Islamabad to make necessary arrangements for the establishment of the mission. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 19 Jul 84 BK]

Majlis Speaker's 21 July Press Conference

GF220743 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT
22 Jul 84

[Report on press conference given by Iranian Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani to FRG and Iranian reporters after his meeting with FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher in Tehran on 21 July]

[Text] In reply to a question about a projected pilgrimage, the Majlis speaker said that if he goes on hajj this journey will naturally take place during the days of hajj. However, he said: No decision has been made on this, but an initial invitation was received through the Saudi Arabian Embassy — which was sent on behalf of persons not mentioned by them — inviting me to hajj. This was sent to us by their official for hajj affairs and we have said that such journeys can be useful. However, if a matter is seriously taken up, it can be discussed at the appropriate time. For the present, an inclination has been shown on their side, and we have shown reciprocal good will.

In reply to a question on the possibility of peace between Iran and Iraq while Saddam is in power, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: I do not think so because it is Saddam who is at the root of all this destruction and devastation and damage to the lives of all these people. For the Islamic Republic, as a Muslim and revolutionary country, it would not be acceptable at any time for us to enter into talks with such a man. With the Saddam regime continuing in Iraq, only a cease-fire may be achieved. That would be detrimental to all sides and may not mean real peace. This problem should be solved at its roots and the Iraqi people should choose a government they desire. In that event, we may be able to cooperate, but only with a government in Iraq that did not commit all those crimes.

In reply to this question on whether he sees any change in the Soviet and U.S. attitudes on the war imposed by Iraq against Iran, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: I do not see any important changes. From the very beginning we have believed that the Soviets and the Americans were supporting Saddam, and in this region as well the U.S. proteges like Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Sudan have been open supporters of Iraq. The majority of arms that the Iraqis are using against us are Soviet; and even during the war, sophisticated missiles and MiG aircraft, at times delivered secretly and at other times openly, have been given to Iraq. In general, we believe that during this entire period Iraq has had the support of both superpowers. France is also a partner in this war. And since its support has become apparent lately, a little more activity is to be seen in this regard. However, that does not change the real nature of the problem much.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: In fact, we believe that this war was started with an understanding with them [the superpowers] and they have been participants in this war from the very beginning.

In reply to a question asked by a German correspondent about whether he thought talks and discussions with the leaders of Saudi Arabia would in any way help end the Iraqi-imposed war against Iran, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, representative of the imam in the Supreme Defense Council said: It is possible, but not much

can be expected. We think that through its continuing and ample financial aid to Iraq in this war, Saudi Arabia plays a powerful role in making Iraq continue its war. If these resources were to be withheld from Iraq, then Saudi Arabia could naturally be effective in ending the war. It is possible that Saudi Arabia may have been poisoned against Iran and because of the lack of contact between us and Saudi Arabia, the Saudis seem very afraid of the Islamic Revolution in Iran. Our talks may remove this unnecessary fear and persuade the Saudi Arabians that having good relations with us can make them more confident about their own future and this may make them cease their unnecessary support and aid. I believe that if we achieve this result, then the war will end very soon.

With regard to the Iranian decision to complete the nuclear power station in Bushehr, the speaker of the Iranian Majlis said: This project has reached a stage where giving it up would not be right for any reason. A major portion of its expenses have been provided. If we give up now, all the money spent so far would have to be considered lost. If that happens, then the project would come to nothing. Besides, we are now facing an energy shortage which causes power outages in winter and summer. Also, our industries are developing and need electricity. This atomic power project in Bushehr is also important to us technically. It will help us make progress in using atomic-powered energy in our country and also make up for shortage of energy in the country. Beside we have already sunk a huge amount of capital into the project and that should not be unnecessarily wasted. Therefore, I think it would not be logical for us to give up that project. We hope that this work will proceed correctly.

In reply to a question, on what political and diplomatic means Iran would adopt to achieve peace in the Persian Gulf, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Majlis said: We do not place much hope in diplomacy. If the objective is peace with Saddam, then we must say there is no hope at all. However, we are hopeful of convincing states in the region and others concerned for peace that by ousting Saddam we can reach lasting peace so that Iraq, Iran, and our Persian Gulf neighbors may lead peaceful lives. That means convincing the concerned parties to pave the way for achieving our objective, the ouster of Saddam, freedom for the Iraqi people, and proper restoration of our usurped right. In reply to another German correspondent who asked about the Islamic Republic's terms for beginning talks with Iraq, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani: I have said we do not talk with Iraq. Therefore, there can be no question of terms. Iraq is the aggressor and because it is an aggressor, it should stand trial. However, we do not prescribe the tribunal. We have said that the tribunal may be set up by the Islamic countries or the international organizations, the Third World, the nonaligned countries, or those who are concerned in this matter. They should come and pronounce that Saddam should be tried for starting the war and initiating the aggression. If talks mean this, then they are possible. However, if talks concern how we will talk to Saddam or that we stop the war, then they are not acceptable.

One of the German correspondents asked the speaker of the Majlis who would be the successor to Imam Khomeini, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran and whether there is any truth in the speculation that it will be Ayatollah Montazeri. Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani replied: First

of all, we hope that the revered imam will live for years and continue to lead this revolution. And, God be praised, his health confirms our hopes. We do not even like to hear such questions. However, in our constitution, it is clearly spelled out that if there is a man who achieves popularity similar to that of the respected imam then he will naturally become our leader, having precedence over all others. However, if there is no such person, then the Assembly of Experts can choose three or five capable persons [to run the country]. With regard to the second part of this question, about whether Ayatollah Montazeri is that person, in my opinion, yes. If you are asking my opinion, it is so. Ayatollah Montazeri now has a status that gives us that expectation and his popularity is spreading daily. We hope the life span of the leader of the revolution will not be less than that of Ayatollah Montazeri. However, God forbid, if such a day does dawn, and the conditions remain as they are today, in my opinion, Ayatollah Montazeri is the person who can get a unanimous votes in the Assembly of Experts and Ayatollah Montazeri could be the leader. However, we will have to wait to see what the future brings.

In conclusion, the imam's representative in the Supreme Defense Council addressed the German reporters, and said: We expect you to go through our society and understand the existing realities. When you return to the West, we do not expect you to be unnecessarily partial to us. However, if you find that all those lies fed by the Western mass media to the public are false, then we expect you to correct that situation and tell the public the facts.

Further on Press Conference

LD221233 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
22 Jul 84

[Press conference given by Iranian Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani to FRG and Iranian reporters in Tehran on 21 July — recorded]

[Excerpt][Question:] "Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, on the eve of the arrival in Iran of Mr Genscher, Western circles reported that he has come to our country to raise the questions of human rights and the war imposed on Iran by Iraq. Did you, during your discussions, raise the question of Western countries' cooperation with international terrorism and the protection accorded plane hijackers?"

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] Could you identify yourself.

[Question] The Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] Of course he did not come here to deal with these two topics. He came here to discuss bilateral relations. We had a great deal to discuss, and he did raise them during his meetings. During our detailed discussions, this also was raised. Obviously, as far as the issue of human rights is concerned, we had certain questions to ask the West in general, which we expected them to answer. Questions were raised about the situation in Palestine, in Africa and support for terrorism. They also asked certain questions, which we answered. I believe, our question was more potent, but we have not received any answer yet. As for the issue of war, the question was raised implicitly. He

wished to know our views. We explained our views. A positive point during the talks was that, in contrast to other guests who have visited our country, Mr Genscher clearly accepted during our talks that Iraq was the aggressor; that it was Iraq who started the war. For the first time during our officials talks we heard from our official guests such an explicit statement. God willing, this could serve as a new development in this issue.

Khomeyni Vetoes Speaker's Saudi Visit

GF231124 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic
22 Jul 84 pp 1, 18

[Text] A Gulf official has said that the reason that Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Iranian Majlis, has not made up his mind on accepting the invitation to visit Saudi Arabia is that Khomeyni has vetoed the visit. The official said that the conflicting reports on Hashemi-Rafsanjani accepting or rejecting the invitation are due to the fact that Hashemi-Rafsanjani was waiting for a decision on the invitation from Khomeyni. The official said that Khomeyni's decision was that the invitation should be rejected. However, Hashemi-Rafsanjani's office is still saying that no decision has yet been made on the invitation.

The official explained that the reason for Khomeyni's veto is due to Hashemi-Rafsanjani's religious status, for although Hashemi-Rafsanjani is speaker of the Majlis and Khomeyni's personal representative on the Supreme Defense Council, his religious position — the fact that he is merely a *hojjat ol-islam* and not a *sayyed* or an *ayatollah* — does not qualify him to make such a decision on his own. This is confirmed by the fact that Khomeyni continues to be the only decisionmaker in Iran; everything he wants becomes a duty that must be implemented.

Politically the explanation is that Iran does not want to make a decision on the Saudi invitation because it fears Saudi officials will influence Hashemi-Rafsanjani and persuade him to tone down his extreme stand on the war with Iraq. It is said that Iran is going ahead in its preparations to launch the offensive for which it has been preparing for several months and which has not materialized. Western reports say that Iraq is capable of repulsing and crushing any new Iranian offensive.

Charge in Kuwait Warns Iraq on Chemical Warfare

LD221136 Tehran IRNA in English 1128 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Kuwait, July 22, IRNA — The Iranian charge d'affaires in Kuwait Mohammad Reza Baqeri Saturday morning warned against Iraq's intention to resume deployment of chemical warfare in its war against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Speaking at a press conference he stressed that the downfall of Baghdad regime was an inevitable task to guarantee maintenance of peace in the region.

He further noted that Iraqi deployment of chemical weapons would affect the whole humanity and people of the region in particular.

Baqeri added that such a dreadful crime committed by the Baghdad regime had also affected a number of people in some of the neighbouring countries.

Stressing that the Iraqi regime should be punished to maintain security in the region, the Iranian charge d'affaires said that the Iranian people supported an honourable peace which materialised Iran's just conditions.

He added that if endeavours of mediating circles were aimed at establishment of a one-sided peace, such efforts would fail to be fruitful.

Asked whether Iran had concluded an agreement with Iraq to halt attacks on cities and residential quarters, Baqeri said that the Islamic Republic had signed no pact with the Baghdad regime in this respect and had only responded to a U.N. secretary general's appeal on both sides to stop attacking each other's cities.

He also expressed satisfaction over his meeting with Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah during which he was presented a written message from his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati on the Iraqi deployment of chemical warfare.

He said that the two sides also discussed current issues and mutual relations as well as the expansion of the existing ties.

The Iranian charge d'affaires denied baseless rumours alleging the Islamic Republic of Iran for having [as received] purchased arms from the Zionist regime and noted that Iran had not recognised that regime and, therefore, would not establish any relations with it.

He said that a large amount of arms purchased during the rule of the toppled shah being stored in Iran could meet Iran's need to weaponry and also at present spare parts needed in this respect were being manufactured in Iran.

In addition, he added, huge amount of ammunition seized from the Iraqi enemy was another source to meet such a need and said that moreover the free market for the sale of weapon was open to all.

He stressed on stability of Iran's economic situation and said that political and economic situation in the country had been further strengthened compared to the past four years.

The best proof to this, Baqeri said, was that Iran had not so far asked for help from big powers.

Baqeri: New Attack "Soon"

LD211401 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1151 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 21 Jul (KUNA) — Iranian Charge d'Affaires Mohammad Reza Baqeri has said that his country is preparing a new attack against Iraq. He said at a press conference held at the ambassador's house this morning that Iran's objective is to "end the war." Baqeri did not specify a date for this attack, but

said that it will be "soon" and that by means of the attack Iran will do everything possible to end the war. He reiterated his country's rejection of the efforts of the Islamic presidents' Good Offices Committee to end the Iraq-Iran war, referring to Khamene'i's position that this committee "strives to impose peace by one side."

Baqeri again denied that Islamic Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani had accepted an invitation to visit Saudi Arabia. He explained that Hashemi-Rafsanjani's office had earlier denied accepting an invitation, but he also confirmed that no invitation had been rejected. He also denied that the Iranian foreign minister's assistant or any other Foreign Ministry official had visited Saudi Arabia and Qatar. He said, "I declare officially that such a visit did not take place."

On his meeting last week with Shaykh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jabir, deputy prime minister, foreign minister and minister of information, Baqeri said that it was very cordial, that it was his first with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, that it was held in a fraternal and cordial framework. He said: I handed him a message from Foreign Minister Dr Velayati. He said that the talks dealt with the development of bilateral relations. "Shaykh Sabah gave me a warm reception and gave me more time than customary in diplomacy." He said that he informed Shaykh Sabah that a new Iranian ambassador is ready to leave for Kuwait anytime, and that Iran has called for the appointment of a Kuwait ambassador in Tehran. Baqeri refrained from naming the new ambassador who succeeds 'Ali Shams Ardakani.

Baqeri said that Iran will not respond to any mediation or effort to achieve just peace in the region until its conditions are met. He said that Iran's four previous conditions remain unchanged, that Iran will become a neighbor and warm friend in the region, and that Iran welcomes consolidation of fraternal, Islamic relations with the countries of the region, consolidation of the principles of good-neighborliness among its peoples, and achievement of security and stability in order to establish the foundations of peace, security, and tranquility in the whole region.

FRG's Genscher, Delegation Arrive for Visit

Welcomed by Velayati

LD201728 Tehran IRNA in English 1709 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 20, IRNA — West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher arrived here this evening at the head of a high-ranking delegation for an official visit to the Islamic Republic.

He was welcomed by Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and other Foreign Ministry officials at Tehran's Mehrabad Airport.

Velayati said he hoped the talks with the West German delegation would be fruitful.

Genscher said he was interested in holding talks on international issues. He expressed appreciation for having an opportunity to visit the Islamic Republic and lay the grounds for the expansion of bilateral relations.

He said West Germany wanted to see a positive development in regards to bilateral relations.

During his visit, Genscher would hold talks with top officials of the Islamic Republic.

Velayati-Genscher Talks Begin

LD211231 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] The first round of talks between the foreign ministers of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the FRG started this morning at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In a general session held for this purpose with the participation of members of the political-economic German delegation, the two countries' ambassadors, the political under secretary and a group of the officials of the Foreign Ministry, Mr Velayati, our country's foreign minister, welcomed the FRG foreign minister and the delegation accompanying him. Referring to the long record of relations between Iran and Germany, which date back 400 years, he considered Germany's lack of any record of domination in Iran as an important factor in the continuation of economic, commercial, and political relations between the two countries since the Islamic revolution. He hoped that, bearing in mind such background and record, visits for the expansion of relations between the two countries and in the interest of the two nations would continue.

Then Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, German foreign minister, replied: We attach great importance to the official visit to Iran, and the tradition of friendship between the two nations of Iran and Germany guides us in this matter.

He added: Although Germany is part of the West, it has an independent character as being German; so we wish all the world's peoples to live in accordance with their own characters and identities. As a result we are interested in cooperation with the nations that follow their paths on the basis of their identities. That probably explains why the German Government regards the Islamic Republic of Iran with respect.

The German foreign minister said: We are interested in Iran's neutral and independent stance in the political and international scene, and on this basis we pursue cooperation with the Islamic Republic of Iran and talks with its officials.

Then Mr Velayati expressed appreciation of Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher's remarks, saying: We are also interested in strong and extensive bilateral relations between the two countries, and these relations must be based on mutual rights and interests of the two nations and without intervention in the internal affairs of each other.

He added: In Germany you choose your government's policy on the basis of your nation's beliefs. Our government is also based on our nation's beliefs. We believe in Islam and Islam makes up our government's infrastructure. Islamic law is different from the law in which the West believes. We believe that if man puts Islamic laws into practice he will prosper.

Mr Velayati then said: One of the issues which we view differently from yours is the issue of human rights. However, the issue on which both of us have identity of views is opposing terrorism. Mr Velayati then referred to the state of terrorist groups in Iran, the massacre of innocent people by these groups as well as their confessions to these crimes. He then handed to the German foreign minister comprehensive and well-documented evidence substantiating the terrorist acts by groups which currently come under the protective umbrella of certain Western countries. He then called on Germany, as a member of the EEC, to convey the Islamic Republic of Iran's warning about the support given by some of the countries to fugitive terrorists.

Continuing his speech, our country's foreign minister added: If some Western countries genuinely believe in human rights and if their resort to human rights is not for political gains, they must fight against terrorism, which is the worst violation of human rights.

Mr Velayati also referred to freedom of religion in Iran, saying: Official religious minorities, such as Christians, Jews, and Zoroastrians, enjoy total freedom in accordance with the constitution and have representatives in the Islamic Consultative Assembly. Basically Muslim minorities in European countries do not have as many rights as official religious minorities in Iran have.

In the first round of talks between the foreign ministers of Iran and the FRG it was decided that the committees study the economic and cultural issues between the two countries and that the results be summed up in the next meeting between the two countries' foreign ministers.

The talks between Messrs Velayati and Hans-Dietrich Genscher on political, regional, and international issues and bilateral economic relations will continue this afternoon.

DPA: Iranian Isolation Feared

LD201954 Hamburg DPA in German 1845 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, 20 Jul (DPA) — West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher began his 3 days of talks with Persian leaders in Tehran today with an exchange of views with his Iranian counterpart, 'Ali Akbar Velayati. Genscher, who is the first leading Western politician to visit Iran since the Islamic revolution, wants to negotiate an intensification of relations, including economic, scientific, and technical cooperation.

German delegation circles today stressed the concern of the Federal Republic and its Western partners that Iran not become politically isolated. The Federal Republic, of all Western countries, maintains particularly good relations with Iran. According to German diplomatic circles, however, Genscher will not propose any mediation attempts of his own concerning the 4-year Iran-Iraq war, but will stress that the Federal Government supports the initiatives of the United Nations and the peace efforts of the countries of the Gulf region.

Genscher also met with representatives of the German-Iranian Chamber of Trade, who are concerned about the German export

boom to Iran. Iran is complaining about the high trade deficit with the Federal Republic and wants increased sales of oil to Germany. On Saturday, the foreign minister will lay a wreath at the cemetery of the "martyrs" — the official name for war victims. He will then continue his talks with the Iranian foreign minister, and later meet the head of government and parliamentary president.

DPA: Human Rights Discussed

LD211517 Hamburg DPA in German 1257 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Tehran 21 Jul (DPA) — In Tehran today FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher made an appeal to the Iranian leadership on the observance of human rights. In a talk with his Iranian counterpart, 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Genscher mentioned in particular concern about the death penalty and the treatment of non-Muslims in Iran. Foreign Ministry spokesman Karl Theodor Paschke also said after the meeting that Genscher outlined the German view in emphatic terms in the 1-hour talk. He called the discussion "serious and frank."

The discussion of this topic took up so much time that the two foreign ministers agreed on an additional talk for the same day. They are to talk also about other topics, including the Gulf war. According to Paschke, Velayati did not brusquely reject Genscher's points but pointed out that the Koran and Islamic tradition gave rise to a different understanding of human rights. Among other things, he also cited the terrorism in Iran which must be combatted.

Paschke added that the ministers agreed that there should be in the near future a colloquium of experts from the two countries on the understanding of human rights in different cultural spheres. In his talk with Velayati Genscher pointed out that the centuries-old traditional friendship between the two countries should make possible relations in which people could speak openly, seriously, and forthrightly to each other.

The federal minister, who has been in Iran since yesterday, was attacked today in the English-language newspaper *TEHRAN TIMES* for the FRG stance on developments in Iran. The newspaper wrote that the FRG supports the enemies of Iran and gives them asylum; moreover it is one of the best examples of a "satellite of U.S. imperialists." The newspaper demanded economic pressure on Bonn to move the government there to expel the "anti-revolutionary elements." If Iran were to stop its imports from the FRG, then the Germans would have problems.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman made no comment on the attacks in the newspaper but stressed that these accusations did not arise at Genscher's talks with Velayati and with Minister of Economy and Finance Hoseyn Namazi. However, Namazi did express concern about the continuing high deficit in trade between Iran and the FRG.

In 1983 Iran imported goods worth DM7.7 billion from the FRG and exported only DM1.6 billion worth. Also in the first 5 months of this year German exports, at DM3.2 billion, were five times higher than Iranian exports to the FRG.

At this meeting with Genscher, however, Namazi did respond positively to the proposal that German companies should train more Iranian personnel, above all in Iran itself. But this would entail Iran being more generous in giving permission for residence by extending the visas of German experts. According to the spokesman, Namazi also saw in the training of skilled personnel, for which the country has a great need, a contribution to the balancing-out of the trade deficit.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques

No 1,794

LD201555 Tehran IRNA in English 1545 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 20, IRNA — At least 80 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and three major enemy bases were set ablaze while considerable damage was inflicted upon the enemy in the northwestern operational regions during the past 24 hours. Also, one mortar launching pad was demolished and three artillery pieces damaged in the said region by the heavy fire of Islamic combatants during the said period.

Announcing this the Joint Staff Command Communique No 1,794 further said that exchange of fire continued in western operational regions and the Islamic combatants while strengthening and stabilising their defensive positions, fired on the Iraqi artillery positions and personnel bunkers.

One mortar launching pad and several light and heavy weaponry positions were smashed in this region.

In the operational region of Abadan and Khorramshahr, the Islamic combatants zeroed in on the enemy bunkers in west of Arvand River, as a result of which 25 Iraqis were killed or wounded and 9 group and individual bunkers destroyed.

Five houses were damaged by the Iraqi long-range heavy gunfire upon the residential areas of Abadan during the preceding 24 hours, concluded the Joint Staff Command communique.

No 1,795

LD211713 Tehran IRNA in English 1646 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 21, IRNA — At least 55 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded in battlefronts near Piranshah, Sar Dasht, and Hajj 'Umrán, and another 24 were killed or wounded in battlefronts near the Iran-Iraq border in Ilam and Bakhtaran Provinces Friday, according to a military communique published here today.

The communique published by the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and numbered 1,795 said also that in the said regions one Iraqi outpost, five of their larger trenches and surveillance posts and one ammunition depot were set ablaze. In the western battlefronts three mortar launchers, and one missile launcher were destroyed, and 10 enemy bunkers were razed down, and two ammunition depots were set ablaze, with smoke welling up into the sky from the explosion area for one full hour. [Tehran Domestic Service in Persian at 1630 GMT

on 21 July adds that the Iraqi forces suffered 24 casualties in this region]

In the southern battlefronts artillery fire was exchanged between Iran's Muslim fighters and Iraqi troops Friday; the exchange of fire prevailed more near the Iranian cities of Khorramshahr and Kushk and around the Iraqi city of Zayd.

Meanwhile, a convoy of enemy patrol which sought to infiltrate the Iranian positions near Anbar River were repelled by the immediate fire of Muslim combatants. Elsewhere, west of the River Arvand, one drilling vehicle of the enemy troops was knocked out and seven emplacements for light and heavy guns were razed.

On Friday four houses, one shop and one mosque were damaged under enemy long-range artillery fire in Abadan and six places in the city caught fire upon being hit by enemy bombs.

No 1,796

LD221707 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Communique No 1,796 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] During the past 24 hours, exchange of heavy weapons fire continued on all the northwestern fronts. Our artillery units returned enemy fire, setting ablaze a 120-mm mortar-launcher and four trucks carrying enemy personnel.

In the western operational theater, the combatants of Islam forced an enemy military patrol group trying to penetrate our forces' defensive positions in the Sumar and Shur Shirin sector, to flee by opening fire on them.

At 2030 hours on 29 Tir [20 July], an enemy unit, employing artillery fire, attempted a limited offensive in the [name indistinct] sector; it confronted the resistance of our combatants and retreated after suffering relatively heavy losses and casualties.

In the Abadan and Khorramshahr theater of operations, our forces' fire on enemy positions west of Arvand Rud destroyed 8 light and heavy weapons emplacements of the Saddamite mercenaries and killed 25 of them. Enemy engineering activities were also halted in that sector. [Tehran IRNA in English at 1532 GMT on 22 July, in a report on the communique, adds that "Iraqi forces shelled the southern city of Abadan Saturday, causing damage against 21 homes and shops."]

Khamene'i, Hashemi-Rafsanjani Confer With Khomeyni

LD231050 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1034 GMT 23 Jul 84

[Text] President Khamene'i and Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani this morning called on and conferred with Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Delegation Departs for Border Talks With Pakistan

LD221339 Tehran IRNA in English 1252 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 22, IRNA - A political delegation assigned by Interior Ministry left Zahedan, capital city of southeastern Baluchestan va Sistan Province, for Quetta in Pakistan Saturday.

Prior to his departure, political deputy at Balv Chestan va Sistan governor general's office, who heads the delegation, Kazemi, [spelling as received] said that the visit was taking place to follow up talks previously started between Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During the four-day visit the Iranian delegation would study border protocols and will discuss with Pakistani officials measures to establish further control over the borders.

Ministry Warning on Street Disturbances, Purdah

LD211251 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Interior Ministry statement issued 21 July]

[Text] In his exalted name. The hezbollahi Islamic nation is hereby informed that in the last couple of days a number of irresponsible people, under the guise of combating non-purdah, have embarked on an unauthorized march along certain Tehran streets, causing a disorderly disturbance. Since irresponsible behavior by various individuals will not only not help toward solving this religious-social problem, but rather in the course of this action a group of opportunists and self-seeking individuals would take advantage of the situation and disrupt public order, it is necessary that responsible officials, in accordance with the shari'a, ban demonstrations and marches.

The law enforcement forces are hereby instructed to apprehend the transgressors and hand them over to the judicial authorities.

In the meantime women not wearing purdah are hereby warned that they should observe the public decency of our Islamic society and the religious (?standards) of the martyr-nurturing and ever-present Islamic nation, otherwise they will be dealt with by the law if they continue their violations.